Arms Purchased by Tripura National Volunters From Bangladesh

2483. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD :
SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tripura National Volunteers (TNV) has purchased arms from Bangladesh

(b) whether it is a fact that a section of the Mizo insurgents has also joined the Tirpura National Volunteers ;

(c) whether it is a fact that a tense situation has been created in Tripura ; and

(d) if so, what remedial measures are being adopted ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL SECURITY (SHRI ARUN NEHRU) : (a) There is no definite information that Tripura National Volunteers (TNV) has purchased arms from Bangladesh.

(b) The MNF was assisting TNV in the past in imparting training. However, as a pre-condition to holding of talks with the MNF delegation, the MNF have agreed not to extend any support to TNV. There is no information that a section of the Mizo insurgents have joined TNV.

(c) and (d) The TNV have been engaging in violet activities in the recent months. However, security mean sures have been tightened and vigilance on the border has also heen intensifird. Suitable measures have been undertaken by the State Government to rehabilitate the extremists who have surrendered.

Tiger Reserves in the Country

2484. SHRI KAPIL VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Central Government propose to fully finance the "Project Tiger" under the Seventh Plan and if so, what will be the likely expenditure;

(b) what is the present number of tiger reserves in the country ; and how many States have already got it and how many propose to set it up for improving their eco system ; and

(c) how many wild life parks and sanctuaries the country has at present and what is the projected increase in their number in the Seventh Plan

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) From the existing pattern of assistance on 50:50 basis for the management of the 'Tiger Reserves', it has now been decided to release assistance as 100% on non-recurring expenditure and 50% on recurring expenditure.

(b) and (c) At present there are fifteen tiger reserves, located in eleven States and one Union Territory. There are 53 national Parks and 247 sanctuaries located in the various States of the Country. It is not possible to indicate the increase in their number during 7th Five Year Plan since these are set up by the respective State Governments.

Sales tax on cars in Pondicherry

2485. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the rates of sales tax in Pondicherry on Cars and Chassis are comparatively less than those in other States;